IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 7-9 as follows:

7. (NEW) A method for providing an extensible macro language comprising:

analyzing a macro language expression;

determining based on a predetermined syntax of a macro language, one or more keywords in the analyzed macro language expression, the keyword representing an extended macro command initially unknown to the macro language;

retrieving a code of instructions associated with the keyword from a registry of keywords; and

executing the code of instructions associated with the keyword,

wherein the extended macro command is executed without recompiling the macro language.

8. (NEW) A system for providing an extensible macro language, comprising:

a parser having a predefined syntax to determine one or more extended keywords embedded within a macro language expression, the extended keyword representing a newly extended command initially unknown to a macro language;

a keyword repository having one or more keywords and one or more associated codes; and

a macro handler coupled to the parser for receiving the extended keyword from the parser, the macro handler in response to the received extended keyword, retrieving a code of instructions associated with the received extended keyword from the keyword repository and executing the code of instructions to run the extended command represented by the extended keyword,

2

wherein the extended command is executed without recompiling the macro language.

9. (NEW) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps of extending a macro language, comprising:

analyzing a macro language expression;

determining based on a predetermined syntax of a macro language, one or more keywords in the analyzed macro language expression, the keyword representing an extended macro command initially unknown to the macro language;

retrieving a code of instructions associated with the keyword from a registry of keywords; and

executing the code of instructions associated with the keyword,

wherein the extended macro command is executed without recompiling the macro language.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. In the Office Action, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,105,043 ("Francisco et al."). As explained to the Examiner during a previous telephone interview on October 4, 2001, the claims in the present application recite an "extensible macro language."

Francisco et al. that the Office Action refers to as allegedly disclosing the elements in the claims, e.g., Col 15, lines 31-67 and Col 16, lines 1-17, describes variable substitution. That is, the data input by a user on an HTML

3